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25 January 1951

The Honorable Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

Since assuming responsibility as Director of Central Intelligence, I have made certain organizational changes which I believe will enable the Central Intelligence Agency to discharge more effectively its statutory functions and the responsibilities assigned it by the National Security Council. In this connection, it seems desirable to clarify the allocation of certain functions as between the Central Intelligence Agency and the Department of State in accordance with National Security Council directives.

In line with National Security Council Intelligence Directive No. 3, the Department of State has primary responsibility for political, cultural and sociological intelligence. As you know, the Central Intelligence Agency formerly was engaging to some extent in intelligence research in these fields. After extensive discussions between our representatives, I have come to the conclusion that henceforth the Central Intelligence Agency should look to the Department of State for intelligence research in the political, cultural and sociological fields. The discontinuance of Central Intelligence Agency research activities in these fields will undoubtedly mean that the Department of State will require additional resources. The Central Intelligence Agency stands ready, to the extent of its capabilities, to assist the Department in obtaining such resources.

As you know, a survey is now being conducted, by direction of the National Security Council, of the needs and capabilities of the various parts of the United States Government in the field of economic intelligence relating to national security. As that survey progresses, the Central Intelligence Agency will wish to discuss the matter with the Department of State with a view to

25 January 1951

arriving, through appropriate procedures, at an effective coordination of such economic intelligence activities.

I trust that you will find these steps to your satisfaction and will call on me for any assistance I may be able to give.

Walter B. Smith
Director